

REMARKS

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for her time and consideration in a telephonic Examiner Interview conducted June 9, 2006. This conversation was helpful to understand the Office's interpretation of the claims and references of record. Applicants subsequently determined to amend claim 1 by incorporating all the limitations of now-canceled claim 2. For the reasons discussed below, this amendment is believed to distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art of record. Consequently, reconsideration of the currently-pending claims rejections is respectfully requested.

I. Rejected Claims

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0198383 by Choi ("*Choi*"), and claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over *Choi* in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0068571 by Ahmavaara ("*Abmavaara*"). Applicants believe that newly-amended claim 1, which includes all of the elements of rejected claims 1 and 2, is patentably distinct from the material taught or suggested by these references.

Claim 1 recites a handover method comprising several operations, including two operations (designated (a) and (b)), one of which is to be performed when a terminal moves to a new cell. The factor that determines whether it is (a) or (b) is whether the terminal is in an idle state or an active state when it moves to the new cell. As Applicants explained in their **Proposed Examiner Interview Topics** transmitted by facsimile to the Examiner in advance of the telephonic interview, and as further discussed during the interview, *Choi* discloses some operations of a system including a mobile node that moves between areas controlled by various stations (home agent, paging foreign agent, and controlling foreign agent), but the interactions between *Choi*'s entities are unlike the operations required by the claim. To recap, *Choi* teaches registering location information of the mobile node to a paging foreign agent when the mobile node moves to a new cell, while the paging foreign agent registers the location

information with the controlling foreign agent only if the mobile node is active (*see Choi* [0045]).

In contrast, claim 1 requires (a) performing an IP (Internet Protocol) acquisition through an IP registration process according to a mobile IP when a terminal in an idle state moves to a new cell, and (b) transmitting traffic to a new moving AS (access station) from a previous AS without performing an IP modification and registration process when a terminal in an active state moves to a new cell. The differences here are:

- The claim requires IP (Internet Protocol) acquisition, not the allegedly analogous registration of “location information,” as *Choi* specifies.
- The claim requires operation *without* performing an IP modification and registration process when an active terminal moves to a new cell, while *Choi* performs the allegedly analogous registration *only if* the mobile node is active.
- The claim requires transmitting traffic to a new moving AS from a previous AS; but *Choi* does not appear to discuss traffic (other than the previously-mentioned “location information”).

Thus, *Choi*’s operations involve different information being exchanged, and the exchanges happen under different circumstances, than is recited in the first two elements of claim 1.

In addition, amended claim 1 further includes the limitation of a control AS determining a handover to set a radio link at a drift AS, and reconfigure a radio link control (“RLC”) layer at a serving AS. The Examiner concedes that this limitation is not present in *Choi*, and relies on *Abmavaara* for the missing material. However, Applicants have carefully reviewed the secondary reference, and particularly the paragraphs specifically cited, but have been unable to locate the alleged teaching or suggestion of the claim elements recited above. Thus, even assuming (solely for the sake of argument) that the references may properly be combined, claim 1 is distinguishable for the foregoing reasons and the rejections should be withdrawn.

Applicants note that the Examiner has also cited to *Abmvaara* ¶ [0041], which concerns usage monitoring and billing. The relevance of this paragraph to the material in claim 1 is not apparent.

Regarding claims 3-5, those claims depend directly or indirectly upon claim 1, and are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed in support of that base claim.

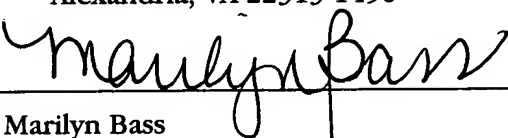
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending, namely claims 1 and 3-5, patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record, and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: July 10, 2006


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	Marilyn Bass	July 10, 2006